

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-14 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SP-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SWF-02

OMB-01 OIC-04 STR-08 L-03 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 AGR-20

SS-20 NSC-07 TAR-02 DRC-01 /223 W

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R 131734Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 2988

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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DEPT. FOR RENNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD TRADE COMMITTEE (TC) MEETING JUNE 25-26:

TC CHAIRMAN'S SUGGESTIONS FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION

REF: USOECD 13732

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PERSONAL LETTER SENT BY TC
CHAIRMAN HERMES TO ALL TC DELS OUTLINING HIS SUGGESTIONS
FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN FIELD
OF TRADE POLICY AT JUNE 25-26 TC MEETING (SEE PARA 2
REFTEL).

BEGIN TEXT.

DEAR COLLEAGUE,

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AT THE NEXT SESSION OF THE TRADE COMMITTEE WE SHALL BE HAVING ANOTHER INFORMAL DISCUSSION ON MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF TRADE POLICY.

THE DECLARATION ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE OECD AT THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL ON 29TH AND 30TH MAY IS UNARGUABLY A MAJOR DEVELOPMENT. THIS DECLARATION IS IN FACT AN EXTENSION OF OUR OWN DELIBERATIONS ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE OIL CRISIS FOR TRADE. ONE OF OUR FUTURE TASKS WILL BE TO KEEP TRACK OF EVENTS IN THE LIGHT OF THE DECLARATION, BUT AT THIS STAGE THERE IS PROBABLY NO NEED FOR DETAILED EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT.

WE HAD ALREADY AGREED TO HAVE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON TRENDS IN THE COMPONENTS OF TRADE BALANCES AND IN FACTORS LIKELY TO AFFECT THEM. THE OIL CRISIS HAS INTRODUCED A NEW ELEMENT WHICH MAY SIGNIFICANTLY ALTER THE APPROACH TO THESE STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WE MIGHT ENDEAVOR TO IDENTIFY THE SCOPE AND ORIENTATION OF OUR EXCHANGES OF VIEWS, WHICH MIGHT IF NECESSARY EXTEND OVER SEVERAL MEETINGS.

HOWEVER, I SHOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT WE TAKE AS THE CENTRAL TOPIC FOR OUR INFORMAL DISCUSSION THE PROBLEM OF RAW MATERIALS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE RELATIONS, THIS BEING TO SOME EXTENT ONE ASPECT OF THE FOREGOING TOPIC.

I THINK WE CAN ALL AGREE THAT THIS PROBLEM WILL BE AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE FUTURE ORGANIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS. ALREADY ITS IMPORTANCE FROM BOTH THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STANDPOINTS, AS EVIDENCED FOR EXAMPLE BY THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SEEMS TO ME TO WARRANT OUR TACKLING THIS PROBLEM IN OUR NEXT INFORMAL EXCHANGE

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OF VIEWS, WITH THE INITIAL AIM OF DEFINING IT MORE
CLEARLY IN TERMS WHICH WE MIGHT SUBSEQUENTLY USE AS A
BASIS FOR STUDYING IT IN A FORMAL SESSION OF THE TRADE
COMMITTEE.

IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO SEE THE PROBLEM IN ITS
NEW DIMENSIONS, AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, IN A DIVERSITY
OF ASPECTS. FORMERLY IT CLAIMED ATTENTION PRIMARILY
BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF RAW MATERIALS TO DEVELOP-
ING COUNTRIES' EXPORTS. NOW IT IS ALSO BEING LOOKED
AT FROM OTHER ANGLES, SUCH AS INFLATION, THE RATIONAL
UTILIZATION OF THE RESOURCES OF PRODUCER COUNTRIES AND
SECURITY OF SUPPLIES FOR IMPORTING COUNTRIES. THESE
DIFFERENT ASPECTS WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED
SIMULTANEOUSLY, IN ORDER TO FIND A BALANCED SOLUTION TO
A PROBLEM WHICH CONCERNS THE WHOLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL
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COMMUNITY.

I SHOULD BE GLAD TO KNOW YOUR REACTIONS TO THE
SUGGESTIONS MADE IN THIS LETTER. PLEASE SEND ME YOUR
COMMENTS AT YOUR CONVENIENCE, EITHER DIRECT OR THROUGH
MR. POINCILIT. I AM SURE YOU WILL ALLOW ME TO ASSUME
THAT LACK OF COMMENT ON YOUR PART WILL INDICATE YOUR
AGREEMENT WITH THESE SUGGESTIONS.

END TEXT.

2. MISSION SUGGESTS THAT ANY COMMENTS DEPARTMENT MAY
WISH TO CONVEY TO HERMES BE SENT VIA EMBASSY BONN WITH
COPY TO MISSION.
BROWN

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